Regular Session, 2010

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# **ACT No. 734**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1090

# BY REPRESENTATIVE DOVE AND SENATOR CHABERT

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 30:2459(A) and (D) and 2460(A)(14), R.S. 36:351(B), R.S.
3	38:111, 112, 213, 221, and 226, R.S. 39:366.3(1) and 1482(A)(1)(a), R.S.
4	41:1701.1(D) and $1702(D)(1)$ , and R.S. $49:214.61(A)$ and to enact R.S. $39:14(7)$ and
5	R.S. 49:214.5.2(F), 214.6.3(B)(5), and 214.6.10(C), relative to the Office of Coastal
6	Protection and Restoration; to provide relative to the role of the Coastal Protection
7	and Restoration Authority and the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration in
8	response to oil spills; to provide relative to responsibilities of the office with coastal
9	levees; to provide relative to immunity for cooperating landowners; to provide for
10	the responsibilities of the office in reclamation of land; to provide certain terms,
11	conditions, and procedures; and to provide for related matters.
12	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
13	Section 1. R.S. 30:2459(A) and (D) and 2460(A)(14) are hereby amended and
14	reenacted to read as follows:
15	§2459. State oil spill contingency plan
16	A. The coordinator shall develop and distribute to the public a state oil spill
17	contingency plan of response for actual or threatened unauthorized discharges of oil
18	and clean up of pollution from such discharges. In addition, the Department of
19	Environmental Quality, in cooperation with the coordinator, shall recommend
20	provisions of the plan relating to unauthorized discharges of oil. The Department of
21	Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the coordinator, shall recommend
22	provisions of the plan providing for protection, rescue, and rehabilitation of aquatic
23	life and wildlife and appropriate habitats on which they depend under its jurisdiction.
24	The director of the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, in cooperation with

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

the coordinator, shall recommend provisions of the plan for providing for the protection and restoration of the coastal areas of the state. The Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the coordinator, shall recommend provisions of the plan providing for protection and rehabilitation of appropriate resources under its jurisdiction. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, in cooperation with the coordinator, shall recommend provisions of the plan providing for emergency response coordination to protect life and property, excluding prevention, abatement, containment, and removal of pollution from an unauthorized discharge.

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D. Prior to adopting the state oil spill contingency plan, the coordinator shall adopt a fully delineated inland boundary for coastal waters as defined in this Chapter, which boundary shall be based upon data provided by, including but not limited to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, and the oil and gas industry. The coordinator shall be authorized to amend the boundary by rule as conditions may warrant. The boundary, as adopted, shall be clearly marked on large scale maps or charts, official copies of which shall be available for public inspection in the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, the office of coastal restoration and management in the Department of Natural Resources, in each agency comprising the interagency council, and in the parish seat of each parish located within the boundary.

§2460. Contingency plan provisions

A. The plan shall include all of the following:

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(14) Procedures established in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, and Department of Natural Resources for assessment of natural resources damages and plans for mitigation of damage to and restoration, protection, rehabilitation, or replacement of damaged natural resources. Pursuant to

1	R.S. 49:214.1 et seq., the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is responsible
2	for integrated coastal protection in the coastal area of the state, therefore, the Coastal
3	Protection and Restoration Authority and the Office of Coastal Protection and
4	Restoration shall assist the coordinator in a primary role in assessing natural resource
5	damages in the coastal area.
6	* * *
7	Section 2. R.S.36:351(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
8	§351. Department of Natural Resources; creation, domicile; composition; purposes
9	and functions
10	* * *
11	B. The Department of Natural Resources, through its offices and officers,
12	shall be responsible for the conservation, management, and development of water,
13	minerals, and other such natural resources of the state, including coastal restoration
14	and management, except timber and fish and wildlife and their habitats.
15	* * *
16	Section 3. R.S. 38:111, 112, 213, 221, and 226 are hereby amended and reenacted
17	to read as follows:
18	§111. Contracts by drainage districts, levee boards, and political subdivisions with
19	Department of Public Works or the Office of Coastal Protection and
20	<u>Restoration</u>
21	Any drainage or subdrainage district, gravity drainage, or gravity subdrainage
22	district, levee board, or political subdivision may contract with the Department of
23	Public Works or, for projects in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the
24	Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, upon any terms for the payment of the
25	cost of the drainage and reclamation projects within the confines of the district or
26	districts involved proportionately by the Department of Public Works, or the Office
27	of Coastal Protection and Restoration, and the districts as may be agreed upon
28	between the Department of Public Works, or the Office of Coastal Protection and

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<u>Restoration</u>, and the governing authorities of the districts entering into any contract.

§112. Cooperation with federal government and State state of Mississippi in building levees

By and with the concurrence and approval of the local levee authorities in interest in Louisiana, and of the Department of Public Works, or, for levees in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, the state of Mississippi and the United States Government, or either of them, jointly or severally, may construct and have entire charge and control of, both in construction and maintenance, and for protection and preservation, all levees which may be deemed necessary by the grantees, or by either of them, for protection against overflow from the Mississippi River, through and over all parts of the State state of Louisiana which by the changes of the channel of the Mississippi River have been separated from other parts of the state of Louisiana, and which are now on the east side of the present channel of the river, and attached to the mainland of the state of Mississippi. The levees shall be of the dimensions and shall be located, and built from adjacent soil, along the lines, and for the distances, determined by the engineers in charge of levee construction either for the United States or for the State state of Mississippi, or for both.

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## §213. Riding or hauling on levees prohibited

<u>A.</u> No person shall ride, drive, or haul upon the public levees <u>or integrated</u> <u>coastal protection projects</u> except where, in the judgment of the levee commissioners of a district and the Department of Public Works, <u>or, for levees or integrated coastal</u> <u>protection projects in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, ample provision has been made to guard against any damage to which the levees <u>or integrated coastal protection projects</u> may thereby be exposed from wear, tear, and abuse.</u>

<u>B.</u> Whoever violates this Section shall be fined not more than fifty dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days, or both.

<u>C.</u> This Section shall not be construed to restrict the proper officers of the state or of any levee district or parish while in the performance of duty in inspecting, guarding, or repairing the levees <u>or integrated coastal protection projects</u>.

<u>D.</u> Nothing in this Section shall interfere with the crossing over any public levees, at ramps or inclines established under plans and specifications of the Department of Public Works, <u>or</u>, <u>for levees or integrated coastal protection projects in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, for the purpose of transporting any material that may be used or required in the business of the population living behind the levees.</u>

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#### §221. Rice-flumes, dahls, or pipes in public levees prohibited

<u>A.</u> No person shall place in, through, or under any public levee any riceflume, dahl, pipe, or other conduit or, after due notification by the levee board or governing authority of the parish, shall fail to remove from the public levee any riceflume, dahl, pipe, or other conduit that may at such date exist.

<u>B.</u> Whoever violates this Section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than sixty days, or both.

<u>C.</u> For each conviction under this Section the district attorney prosecuting shall receive a fee of fifteen dollars.

<u>D.</u> The provisions of this Section shall not be applicable to levees on the Mississippi River not embraced within the limits of the Fifth Louisiana, the Atchafalaya Basin, the Lafourche Basin, the Grand Prairie, the Buras, and the Orleans Levee Districts.

<u>E.</u> The provisions of this Section shall not apply to pipes or other conduits placed through or under the public levees in New Orleans, or in municipalities or parishes when and where needed for the purpose of sewerage, gas, or for furnishing gas or electricity for the use of the cities, municipalities, or parishes and their inhabitants.

<u>F.</u> The laying of such pipes through or under the public levees in cities, municipalities, or parishes shall be with the consent and approval of the levee board, the Department of Public Works, for levees in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, and the governing authorities of the cities, municipalities, or parishes and under the supervision of the Department of Public Works, or the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration.

<u>G.</u> This Section shall not apply to locks connecting navigation canals with the Mississippi River.

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#### §226. Permits for levee crossings

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If an appointed board or commission having jurisdiction over levees receives letters of no objection from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, office of public works, or, for levees in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, in response to a request to the board or commission for a permit or letter of no objection to a levee crossing or a request to renew or transfer an existing permit, it shall be incumbent upon and a ministerial duty of the executive or administrative officer to issue the requested permit or letter of no objection to the crossing, subject to any conditions or stipulations contained in the letters received from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, office of public works or, for levees in the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(3), the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration. The board or commission may impose customary fees, bonds, and other general stipulations. The executive or administrative officer shall enforce such permits for levee crossings only to the extent of the conditions and stipulations contained in the permit or letter of no objection.

Section 4. R.S. 39:366.3(1) and 1482(A)(1)(a) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 39:14(7) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

# §14. Exceptions

The following shall not be subject to the provision of R.S. 39:11 and 12 but shall be subject to the provisions of R.S. 39:13:

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(7) Any interest in immovable property, with the exception of the acquisition of full ownership, including but not limited to temporary easements, rights-of-way, rights-of-entry, predial servitudes, and personal servitudes acquired by the state for the purposes of integrated coastal protection as defined in R.S. 49:214.2(4).

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### §366.3. Definitions

In this Part, the following words and terms shall have the meanings ascribed in this Section unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Cooperative endeavor" means any agreement including one of cooperative financing, other than a competitive bid or competitively negotiated contract, whether contracted pursuant to Chapter 10 of Title 38 or Chapter 16 or 17 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 or pursuant to a request for proposals, request for qualifications, solicitation for offers, or other recognized process for competitively seeking qualified contractors, to which the state is a party and pursuant to which the state has obligated state resources, whether funds, credit, property, or things of value of the state to a nonpublic person for the accomplishment of a public purpose or in the public interest, but shall not include projects contained in the comprehensive state capital outlay budget, projects pursuant to the Governor's Economic Development Rapid Response Program, and coastal restoration projects administered by the Department of Natural Resources integrated coastal protection programs and projects authorized in the annual coastal protection and restoration plan and administered by the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration.

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§1482. Application of the Chapte	ication of the Chapter
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A. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Chapter shall apply to every expenditure of public funds in excess of two thousand dollars by the executive branch of this state for professional, personal, consulting, and social services procurement. However, this Chapter shall not apply to the following procurements:

(1)(a) Professional services for engineering design contracts, construction contracts, or contracts for surveying pertaining to the maintenance and construction of roads and bridges, flood control, <u>integrated coastal protection</u>, aviation, public transportation, or public works entered into by the Department of Transportation and Development as provided in Part XIII-A of Chapter 1 of Title 48 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

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Section 5. R.S. 41:1701.1(D) and 1702(D)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1701.1. State Land Office; powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities

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D. The State Land Office shall identify all public lands and water bottoms within the state and develop and maintain a current master list of those lands and water bottoms. All state agencies, including but not limited to Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, the Department of Natural Resources, the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Transportation and Development, the Louisiana Geological Survey, the state's colleges and universities, all levee boards, drainage boards, parish governing authorities, and any districts created under the jurisdiction of levee boards, drainage boards, or parish governing authorities, shall cooperate with the State Land Office in developing the master list.

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§1702. Reclamation of lands lost through erosion, compaction, subsidence, and sea level rise; land acquisition for certain coastal projects; requirements

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D. In all cases in which a definitive boundary may be arrived at by mutual consent or through the procedures applicable to contested boundaries, the administrator of the State Land Office, as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, or the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, may allow reclamation.

(1) The administrator of the State Land Office may issue a permit for the carrying out of the work necessary to implement the recovery of the land lost through erosion, compaction, subsidence, or sea level rise; however, no such permit shall be issued until plans and specifications for such work have been first submitted to the governing authority of the parish in which the proposed project is located, the Department of Transportation and Development, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, and the Department of Natural Resources for review and comment not less than sixty days prior to the issuance of such permit. No permit shall be required for projects to facilitate the development, design, engineering, implementation, operation, maintenance, or repair of coastal or barrier island restoration projects by the Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration under R.S. 49:214.1 et seq. or other applicable law or projects for the Atchafalaya Basin Program. Within sixty days of completion of the reclamation project, the riparian owner shall submit to the State Land Office proof of the extent of the land area actually reclaimed in the manner provided in Subsection C of this Section for showing the submerged area, which map or plat shall be employed for fixing the definitive boundary between the reclaimed land area and the state water bottoms. Permits issued pursuant to these provisions shall be effective for a period not to exceed two years from the date of issuance and shall thereupon expire. All work remaining or any additional work may be completed only by application in the manner provided by this Section.

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	HB NO. 1090 ENROLLED
1	Section 6. R.S. 49:214.61(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
2	49:214.5.2(F), 214.6.3(B)(5), and 214.6.10(C) are hereby enacted to read as follows:
3	§214.5.2. Functions and responsibilities; Coastal Protection and Restoration
4	Authority
5	* * *
6	F. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, upon approval by the authority,
7	the state, or any political subdivision thereof, may use its own employees or
8	equipment for satisfying any mitigation requirements resulting from or related to an
9	integrated coastal protection project.
10	* * *
11	§214.6.3. Functions and responsibilities; hurricane protection and flood control
12	* * *
13	B. Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration duties and responsibilities
14	regarding hurricane protection and flood control:
15	* * *
16	(5) No funds of the state nor of any political subdivision or political
17	corporation of the state shall be used nor provided to the United States or any of its
18	agencies, by contract, agreement, a required contribution of a project cost-share or
19	otherwise, for the expropriation of property for the purpose of compensatory
20	mitigation of wetlands or other natural habitat, as authorized or required by state or
21	federal law, to offset, compensate, or replace actual or anticipated damages to or loss
22	of wetlands or other natural habitat caused by the Comite River Diversion Project,
23	Amite River and Tributaries, Louisiana. However, the provisions of this Section
24	shall not apply where such funds are to be used to obtain property voluntarily offered

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banking.

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for compensatory mitigation purposes, including but not limited to mitigation

1 §214.6.10. Hold Harmless and cooperative landowner immunity 2 3 C. Landowners or persons holding an interest in property who, without cost 4 to the state or its political subdivisions, provide the land, property, access rights, servitudes, easements, or other property interests necessary for a project conducted 5 6 pursuant to the authority of R.S. 49:214.5.2(A)(7), shall be immune from premise 7 liability, loss, damage, or injury to any third party resulting from or caused by the 8 construction, operation, or maintenance of that integrated coastal protection project. 9 10 §214.61. Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Protection and 11 Restoration; acquisition of property prior to judgment; definitions 12 A. When the state Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal 13 Protection and Restoration cannot amicably acquire property in the coastal zone 14 needed for barrier island preservation, restoration, or creation for coastal wetlands 15 purposes, it may acquire the same by expropriation and may acquire the property 16 prior to judgment in the trial court as provided in this Part. 17 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

**ENROLLED** 

HB NO. 1090

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_